



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Gregg Schuster, First Selectman

**Commission Chairmen Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 19, 2012
Colchester Town Hall – 7:00PM
Meeting Room 1**

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COLCHESTER, CT
2012 APR 20 PM 2:03
NANCY A. BRAY
TOWN CLERK
Nancy A. Bray

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Gregg Schuster, Selectman James Ford, Selectman Stan ~~883~~ and Selectman Rosemary Coyle.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Greg Cordova

OTHERS PRESENT: Walter Cox, Dot Mrowka, Dave Anderson, Ron Goldstein, Liz Gilman, Robert Tarlov, Thomas Tyler, Stephen Cohn, Nick Norton, Joe Matthew, and other citizens.

1. Call to Order

First Selectman G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Commission Updates – Commission Chairs

Liz Gilman reported that the **Agriculture Commission** has been working on the land acquisition and a ranking system for the town of Colchester.

Dave Anderson reported that the **Board of Assessment Appeals** has started April appeals and have several in the upcoming week. They are also researching exemptions for geothermal energy source.

Ron Goldstein reported that the **Board of Education** is busy with the budget process which is now complete and has been presented to the Board of Finance. They are in the process of doing important policy initiatives. The robotics team performed in the Regional and State competition, the jazz choir performed in California and the girls Basketball team won the Class L championship.

Robert Tarlov reported that the **Board of Finance** is heavily involved in budget season as well as reevaluations. Citizens can now go to the town website and calculate what your taxes will be. Also new this year is voting on three bonding issues which include land acquisition, replacement of fire truck/refurbishing of rescue vehicle and road maintenance.

Thomas Tyler reported that the **Building Committee** has finalized an Architectural firm and provided a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to make an award to Tecton architects which has been approved. The architect has been gathering information from several resources in town in working towards the completion of the schematic design. The committee is also in the process of working on a communications plan and delivery methods to be sure they can deliver this project in the most cost effective manner for the town. They are consistently meeting bi-weekly and are very active.

Stephen Cohn reported that the **Economic Development Commission** are pleased to announce that the karate instructional facility located on South Main Street have purchased land and are building a new facility which they believe is a great opportunity for the town to maintain consistent business. The board is in the process of going through old ordinances and helping revise those. There are currently three vacancies on the board if anyone is interested.

First Selectman G. Schuster read a written report by Genea Bell regarding the activities of the **Ethics Commission** (attached #1)

Nick Norton reported that the **Open Space Advisory Committee** continue to explore opportunities to expand on open space. Approved and recommended to the conservation commission the purchase of farm land.

Joseph Mathieu reported that the **Planning and Zoning Commission** is currently down two members. They are currently revising the zoning regulations. They have gone through the first draft as a board.

First Selectman G. Schuster reported on behalf of Robert Parlee regarding the activities of the **Police Commission** who are in the process of wrapping up the rules and regulations, they are also looking at getting more involved in the CERT program and they will be sending the SRO to receive training for crossing guard programs which he will in turn implement this program into the school system.

First Selectman G. Schuster read a written report by Laurie Robinson regarding the activities of the **Zoning Board of Appeals** (attached #2)

No Report Received From:

Merja Lehetinen concerning the **Cable Advisory Committee**
Falk Von Plachecki concerning the **Conservation Commission**
Jack Faski reported that the **Fair Rent Commission**
Ellen Sharon concerning the **Historic District Commission**
Jan LaBella concerning the **Housing Authority**
Sean O'Leary concerning the **Parks & Recreation Commission**
Brendan Healy concerning the **Police Retirement Board**
Richard LeMay concerning the **Sewer & Water Commission**
Pam Scheibelein concerning the **Youth Services Advisory Board**

3. Adjourn

R. Coyle moved to adjourn the Commission Chair Meeting at 7:19 p.m., seconded by J. Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Gina Santos
Clerk

Attachment #1 (Ethics Commission Report)

Attachment #2 (Zoning Board of Appeals Report)

COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ethics Commission has had no complaints or requests for advisory opinions since the last report. The Commission currently has two vacancies. In addition , we have a commissioner who is serving overseas. Consequently, we have had to cancel the last few meetings for lack of quorum. The Commission had a presence at the recent volunteer fair but was not able to identify any prospective members. We would appreciate any and all efforts to ensure that the Ethics Commission is fully staffed.

Respectfully submitted,

Genea Bell

Chair, Colchester Ethics Commission

COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

- The Zoning Board of Appeals has not met since October 2012, due to lack of applications to consider
- As soon as we have an application and meet, the first item on that agenda will be to elect officers
- The ZBA has five members, but we do not have any alternates, which puts us at risk of being able to hear an application with board member present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Robinson